

## De La Huerta, in Special Train, Is Speeding to N. Y.

**Secretary of Treasury in Mexico Coming Here, but No Official Report on His Mission Is Given**

MEXICO CITY, May 23.—Adolfo de la Huerta, Secretary of the Treasury, is leaving Mexico City to-night by special train for New York, according to an official announcement. No official announcement of his departure has been made in his home this afternoon.

Adolfo de la Huerta will arrive in New York not later than June 2, for his scheduled conference with the international committee of bankers on Mexico. The statement was made yesterday by Edward S. Younce, president of the Bank of Commerce and Industry in Mexico City, and representative of Mexican financial interests south of the border.

Confidence in the successful outcome of the conference, which will endeavor to effect an adjustment of the Mexican debt situation after months of negotiation, was expressed by Mr. Younce, who acted as intermediary last winter between Adolfo de la Huerta and the French Ambassador to Mexico.

Adolfo de la Huerta has come again to New York to confer with his principals preparatory to the conference. Another recent arrival in anticipation of the meeting is Augustin Legoretta, managing director of the National Bank of Mexico, and representative of French financial interests there. Sir Charles Wessman, who will act as one of the representatives of the British section of the committee, came to this country yesterday from the general conference of the committee in Paris last month.

Thomas W. Lamont of J. P. Morgan & Co., chairman of the American section of the committee, is scheduled to sail from England to-day on the White Star liner Olympia. He will be host at dinner to the conference on the evening of June 2, this function presumably marking the opening of the ses-

sions.

The company's refining plant treated 1,481,117 barrels of crude oil in 1921, compared with 1,352,639 in 1920.

## Virginia Railway Net \$2,937,732 for 1921

The Virginian Railway Company, in its 1921 report, showed net income of \$2,937,732 after taxes and charges equivalent after allowing for 5 per cent of the cumulative preferred stock of \$4,422 a share owned on the \$12,150,000 outstanding common stock. Including additional compensation of \$2,308,694 received last year in respect of Federal control, net income totaled \$5,245,827, equivalent to \$12,300 a share on the common stock.

Back dividends on preferred stock to February 1, 1922, amounted to \$53,500. In 1920 net income of \$3,187,461 was reported, which was equivalent to \$604 a share earned on the common stock after allowing for the 5 per cent on the preferred stock.

Operating revenue in 1921 was listed in the income account of \$18,244,057, compared with \$15,830,749 for the ten months in 1920. February and January included under Federal control, operating income totaled \$4,575,089.

\*\* Agwi\*\* Issue Authorized

Stockholders of the Atlantic, Gulf and West Indies Steamship Lines at a special meeting yesterday authorized a new issue of \$100,000 five per cent gold bonds and first preferred trust certificates of maritime iron steel tank steamships owned by the company. Shareholders elected Francis Merrill and A. J. Miller directors, succeeding A. E. Nical, former president, and Oliver P. Brown.

## Government Oil Royalties

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Royalties amounting to \$1,000,007 accrued to the government during April from oil and gas produced on public lands in Wyoming and California, the Bureau of Mines announced to-day. This is about 50 per cent more than in April of this amount \$800,000 was credited to Wyoming and \$224,000 to California.

## Financial Items

Lage Brothers & Co., of New York, and William H. Collier & Co., of Chicago, have sold their interest in the common stock of the Moon Motor Car Company, a price of \$900 a share. This stock had been held by the two firms and has never been offered to the public.

Mr. Parsons, for the last nine years with Mr. Strubhaar & Co., has now become associated with J. G. White & Co. and will operate his business under the name of Parsons.

Negotiations are progressing in complete secrecy for the acquisition of the assets of the Matchless Company by the hand of the Matchless Company.

Answer—As a general rule, power is vested in the common stock while the preferred is first entitled to the payment of dividends. As a general rule, power is vested in the common stock while the preferred is first entitled to the payment of dividends. The declaration of common stock dividends rests with the board of directors of a company. In the event of liquidation, the claims of bondholders and general creditors having been satisfied, the preferred stockholders receive a pro rata distribution of assets remaining up to the par value

## Investment Information

Questions of general interest to investors will be answered in this column, in which each reply initially will be used. Others will be answered by mail. Address all inquiries, including a stamped, addressed envelope, to Financial Editor, The Tribune, 162 Nassau Street, New York City.

### Investment from Alimony

Question—Is it good investment to invest what you think would be needed to me to will be most grateful indeed. I have been told to save \$10,000 and will need \$2,000 to live on. Any advice?

Answer—The sum you have set aside is \$2,000 a month, which ceases at exhaustion of your wife's life, fifty or forty years. I expect to add in a short way over years as long as the alimony remains to be commensurate with the time.

Living bonds have been suggested to me by the American States Steel sinking fund, American Telephone and Telegraph, General Electric, and the like.

There is a sharp decline in both gross and net earnings. Total operating revenues amounted to \$13,142,245, a drop of \$1,500,000, while the April operating income of \$1,014,245, a drop of \$166,500.

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Radio stock must be considered specu-

lative and the purchaser should be in

a position to accept a loss if it

comes.

### Federal Light Speculative

Question—Will you be kind enough to give me some of your opinion on the Federal Light and Power Company.

Answer—The Federal Light and Power Company was organized in 1919, and dividends on the preferred stock were paid regularly from date of organization to September, 1921, inclusive. On March 11, 1922, a stock dividend of 42 per cent was paid on the stock of \$250 a share, and a regular quarterly dividend of 8 per cent was paid. Although the common stock has not as yet paid dividends, a resumption of the preferred dividends, which were omitted for a period of seven years, indicates improvement in the corporation's situation.

What the future holds in store for this company remains to be seen. These stocks at present must be regarded as speculative.

### Interest in Speculative Stocks

Question—I am holding on margin the following stocks. What are your suggestions as to buying, selling or switching American, Paris, Atchison, General Electric, First Boston, Standard Oil, Middle States, Northern Pacific, Philadelphia, Canadian Pacific, Pacific Coast, Duran & Karow, Savannah, Georgia, offered the bonds at 98 and interest in July, 1921. The stocks of this company have not a wide market, and we have been unable to obtain recent quotations.

We would class these stocks as suitable for a business man in position to assume the risks involved.

### Answer—The term "preferred" in connection with stock is used to indicate what the word suggests—a preference over any other class of stock issues.

It depends on the charter of a company as to what extent preference is given. As a general rule, voting power is vested in the common stock while the preferred is first entitled to the payment of dividends. The declaration of common stock dividends rests with the board of directors of a company. In the event of liquidation, the claims of bondholders and general creditors having been satisfied, the preferred stockholders receive a pro rata distribution of assets remaining up to the par value

### Answer—Rand Mines American

shares have paid the following divi-

of their holdings, as a rule. Any amount left goes to the common stock. Dividends on the preferred stock may be cumulative or non-cumulative. For example, ladies' garments of America preferred is entitled to dividends of 7 per cent annually before anything is paid on the common stock. These payments do not become cumulative until after 1923, so that although no dividend may be paid up to 1924, it is not until the beginning of that year that the preferred stock is entitled to accumulations at the rate of 7 per cent.

The common stock cannot receive anything until 7 per cent is paid on the preferred. Common stocks are frequently given as a bonus or is stated for value represented by patents, good will, etc. Most states require that the charter of a company state what provisions, if any, secure the preferred stocks and also whether voting rights are vested in the common or preferred stock.

The present interest in wireless telephone and radio seems to have encouraged a great many persons to believe that stock of the Radio Corporation of America may be considered an investment. Until the corporation has demonstrated its earning power over a greater length of time Radio stock must be considered speculative and the purchaser should be in

a position to accept a loss if it comes.

### Union Pacific Net And Gross Show Decline for April

**Operating Income Registers a \$1,506,974 Decrease; Maintenance of Way and Equipment Expenses Up**

The Union Pacific, the first of the important railroad systems of the country to make available its earnings, bears out in its report the recent forecasts that revenues for that month would fall below those of March, when the total for all of the Class I roads was in excess of \$11,700,000.

There was a sharp decline in both gross and net earnings. Total operating revenues amounted to \$13,142,245, a drop of \$1,500,000, while the April operating income of \$1,014,245, a drop of \$166,500.

Gross earnings were listed at \$2,663,659, in the corresponding month in 1921. A balance, after charges, of \$329,687 was shown, against \$295,936.

### FINANCIAL

#### To the Holders of Empire Gas and Fuel Company

Bond Secured Staking Fund Convertible Six Per Cent Notes Dated June 16, 1921, to be paid at maturity.

Bankers Trust Company, New York, held the notes of the Bank and paid them over to the holders of the common on February 15, 1922. Selling "ex," this dividend would automatically reduce the price of the stock 50 per cent and profit taking would increase the decline. Earnings of this company are undoubtedly affected by the coal strike, the settlement of which is uncertain. Dividends at the rate of 6 per cent have been paid since January 26, 1919. We would rarely call dividends "safe" or sure.

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## Commonwealth Power Earnings, \$1,994,473

The Commonwealth Power and Light Company reported net earnings for the year ended April 30, 1922, of \$1,994,473, equivalent to \$1.00 per common stock, after allowing for a reduction of 10 per cent in the capital stock.

This compares with \$1,985,000 in 1921, \$1,980,000 in 1920, and \$1,974,975 in 1919. The decrease in earnings is due to the increase in maintenance expenses.

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